

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1, 12 and 18 are in independent form. Claims 13-23 and 25 were indicated as allowable (claims 13-17 must be amended to independent form).

The drawings were objected to for including a reference no. 70, which was not described in the specification. Element 70 appears in Figure 2. Reference no. 70 has been deleted from Figure 2 and new drawings have been submitted. Accordingly, the objection has been overcome.

The specification was objected to. Claims 12-17 referenced a “locating feature”, but the Examiner argues this feature was not adequately described. The locating features were described in the specification using examples relating to the tabs and notches described in paragraph 0028. Paragraph 0006 relates the interlocking relationship of the tabs and complementary elongated slots to better locating of the lateral cross members relative to the longitudinal side rails. An amendment was made to paragraph 0028 to further highlight this relationship, although no amendment was believed to be necessary.

Paragraph 0006 and the abstract were amended to improve readability.

Claims 1-11 and 24 were rejected under §112, second paragraph. Regarding claim 1, Applicant believes that no change is necessary. Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite “at least one” air spring support member in the second occurrence of this element to improve readability. Claim 1 recites at least one air spring support member, which is element 46 in Figure 2. With continuing reference to Figure 2, the air spring support member 46 includes spaced apart air spring mounting pads 48. In the example shown, each of the air spring mounting pads 48 includes apertures 50 that are used to secure the top of the airbag to the air spring mounting pads 48, which is shown in Figure 8. Applicant believes that the verb tense is proper. Notably, claim 1 only requires one air spring support member, although more are possible.

Regarding claim 24, Applicant has amended the term “coined” to “proud.” “Proud” as used in the claim means raised, relative to a surrounding area. This definition is supported by the specification and drawings.

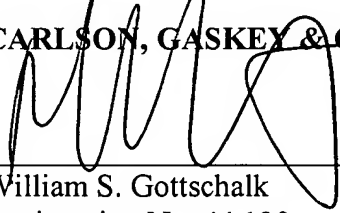
Applicant believes that the rejections of claims 1-11 and 24 under §112, second paragraph have been overcome.

Claim 12 was rejected under §102(b) over *Nilsson et al.* *Nilsson et al.* appears to be missing several limitations recited in claim 12. Specifically, claim 12 requires that one of the locating features is a notch and that the other of the locating features is a protrusion received within the notch. This is not shown by *Nilsson et al.* The Examiner argues that the first locating features are met by the holes 20, 21. Presumably the holes 20, 21 are the notches. The Examiner argues that the lateral cross-member 24 is the second locating feature, presumably the protrusion. Regardless, there is no protrusion received by a notch in *Nilsson et al.* First, the lateral cross-member 24 is not received within the holes 20, 21. Second, the lateral cross-member 24 is not received by the parting line 9. Nowhere is a protrusion on either the lateral cross-member 24 or the longitudinal side rails 2 received by a notch in one of the longitudinal side rails 2 or lateral cross-member 24. The cross-section in Figure 2 of *Nilsson et al.* clearly illustrates this. Accordingly, *Nilsson et al.* cannot anticipate claim 12.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. If any fees or extensions of time are required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1482.

Respectfully Submitted,

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